



Australian Bureau of Statistics

6106.0 - Labour Statistics News, Feb 2010

Previous ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 25/02/2010

Summary

Contents

Expanded Contents



Message from the Director



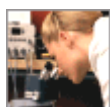
Current projects

Includes: Investigations into making greater use of labour survey data, Investigation into options for the development of linked employer-employee data, Review of data collected in the Job Search Experience survey, Investigation into improving the measure of job change, Review of measurement of temporary work, Investigation into improved gross flows statistics

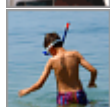


Recent developments

Includes: Aggregate Monthly Hours Worked, Independent Contractors, Labour Force Underutilisation Rate, Employee Earnings and Hours CURF, Extended Labour Force Underutilisation Rate, Survey Recent Releases



Articles and analysis



Find out more

Key labour market summary statistics are available in [Australian Labour Market Statistics](#) (cat. no. 6105.0)

In this issue

NOTES

INQUIRIES

For further information about this publication, contact Labour Market National Statistical Centre on Canberra (02) 6252 7206

SUMMARY COMMENTARY

About this Release

Labour Statistics News is published twice yearly by the Labour Market Statistics National Statistical Centre (NSC). It provides information about the latest in labour market statistics including: outlining recent developments and survey reviews; informing and seeking feedback on current projects; providing analysis and articles on labour-related issues; providing information on how to find, use and interpret ABS labour market statistics; providing useful contacts within the labour market area of the ABS; highlighting significant releases of ABS labour market data or analysis; and advertising upcoming statistical training in labour market statistics. Labour Statistics News aims to reach a wide range of users to inform and engage with the community on labour market issues and statistical developments.

Expanded Contents

CONTENTS

Message from the director

Current projects

INVESTIGATIONS INTO MAKING GREATER USE OF LABOUR SURVEY DATA

INVESTIGATION INTO OPTIONS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF LINKED
EMPLOYER-EMPLOYEE DATA

REVIEW OF DATA COLLECTED IN THE JOB SEARCH EXPERIENCE SURVEY

INVESTIGATION INTO IMPROVING THE MEASURE OF JOB CHANGE

REVIEW OF MEASUREMENT OF TEMPORARY WORK

INVESTIGATION INTO IMPROVED GROSS FLOWS STATISTICS

Recent developments

Re-instatement of the Labour Force Survey Sample

Aggregate Monthly Hours Worked

Labour Force Survey Standard Products and Data Item Guide

Re-instatement of the Job Vacancy Survey

FOES CURF

Presentation at the 11TH Path to Full Employment and the 16TH National
Unemployment Conference

Survey Recent Releases

Articles and analysis

AST Articles

Find out more

Message from the director

[Contents >> Message from the director](#)



MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Welcome to the third issue of Labour Statistics News. The Labour Market Statistics National Statistical Centre produces Labour Statistics News twice a year, to promote the effective use of labour market statistics, and to provide an opportunity for you to give us feedback on these developments so that we can better meet your statistical needs.

This issue includes information on the latest developments in ABS labour market statistics and updates on current work. Some key recent developments include:

- the re-instatement of the full Labour Force Survey sample (fully implemented from December 2009) and the Job Vacancy Survey (in November 2009);
- the release of the 2008 Forms of Employment Survey (FOES) Confidentialised Unit Record File (CURF) - which includes the new Independent Contractor and Labour Hire modules; and
- the release of the Labour Force Survey Standard Products and Data Item Guide.

There are also a range of projects and other developments aimed at improving the range and/or usefulness of labour market statistics which are in progress, or about to commence, including:

- investigations into maximising the longitudinal nature of the Labour Force Survey through matching data across survey months;
- investigations into options for linked employer-employee data;
- upcoming release of additional aggregate monthly hours worked data;
- review of the Job Search Experience survey;
- review of measures of job change; and
- investigation into the development of temporary work measures.

See the [Recent developments](#) and [Current projects](#) sections for more details on these, and other developments.

If you are looking to improve your understanding of the wide range of ABS labour statistics, a wealth of information can be found in the compendium publication [Australian Labour Market Statistics](#) (cat. no. 6105.0), in [Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods](#) (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001) and on the [Labour Theme Page](#) of the ABS website. In addition, the Labour Market National Statistical Centre runs a one day training course, [Introduction to Labour Statistics](#), in partnership with the ABS National Statistical Training Institute, which informs participants of the ABS labour collections and their applications.

If you have any questions about aspects of the labour statistic program, please contact one of our subject experts shown in the Find out more page of this newsletter, or you can contact us on (02) 6252 7206 or email labour.statistics@abs.gov.au.

I hope you find this newsletter interesting and informative.

Michael Gerrity, A/g Director

Labour Market National Statistical Centre

Australian Bureau of Statistics

[Back to top](#)

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

Current projects

[Contents >> Current projects](#)



CURRENT PROJECTS

Labour Market Statistics National Statistical Centre is undertaking a number of development and analytical projects to improve the relevance and reliability of labour market statistics and promote the effective use of these statistics. Current projects provides an overview of this work and contacts for further information.

This section contains the following subsection :

- INVESTIGATIONS INTO MAKING GREATER USE OF LABOUR SURVEY DATA
- INVESTIGATION INTO OPTIONS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF LINKED EMPLOYER-EMPLOYEE DATA
- REVIEW OF DATA COLLECTED IN THE JOB SEARCH EXPERIENCE SURVEY
- INVESTIGATION INTO IMPROVING THE MEASURE OF JOB CHANGE
- REVIEW OF MEASUREMENT OF TEMPORARY WORK
- INVESTIGATION INTO IMPROVED GROSS FLOWS STATISTICS

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

INVESTIGATIONS INTO MAKING GREATER USE OF LABOUR SURVEY DATA

[Contents >> Current projects >> INVESTIGATIONS INTO MAKING GREATER USE OF LABOUR SURVEY DATA](#)

INVESTIGATIONS INTO MAKING GREATER USE OF LABOUR SURVEY DATA

The Monthly Population Survey (MPS) provides the ABS with a range of labour and other data on a monthly basis. The MPS comprises the Labour Force Survey and one or more supplementary surveys.

Households in the MPS are interviewed over eight consecutive months forming a matched sample. This matched sample can show month-to-month labour market transitions, such as

those released in the Gross Flows datacube (GM1) available in [Labour Force, Australia](#) (6202.0), but it also provides the possibility of producing longer-term transitions. There is also a range of other information collected as part of the MPS in each month, and across different months, which could be used to produce new analytical datasets.

A number of dimensions are currently being explored to make greater use of labour survey data, which include:

- The production of longitudinal Labour Force Survey data.
- The development of family level estimates for the [Employee Earnings, Benefits and Trade Union Membership](#) (cat. no. 6310.0) labour force supplementary survey.
- The development of linkages between labour supplementary surveys collected in different months, such as [Employee Earnings, Benefits and Trade Union Membership](#) (cat. no. 6310.0), collected annually in August, and [Education and Work](#) (cat. no. 6227.0), collected annually in May.

For more information please contact Bjorn Jarvis on (02) 6252 6552 or email [<bjorn.jarvis@abs.gov.au>](mailto:bjorn.jarvis@abs.gov.au).

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

INVESTIGATION INTO OPTIONS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF LINKED EMPLOYER-EMPLOYEE DATA

[Contents](#) >> [Current projects](#) >> INVESTIGATION INTO OPTIONS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF LINKED EMPLOYER-EMPLOYEE DATA

INVESTIGATION INTO OPTIONS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF LINKED EMPLOYER-EMPLOYEE DATA

A variety of different linked employer-employee datasets have been developed by a range of statistical agencies and central banks across the OECD, but there has been very little information produced in Australia since the Australian Workplace Industrial Relations Survey (AWIRS) was last conducted in 1995.

Data which links employers and their employees have enabled researchers abroad to explore a range of employer-employee dynamics which are not possible from separate business-level and person-level datasets. Data in Australia regarding employers (often collected from businesses) are generally unconnected to data on employees (usually collected from individuals using household surveys).

The ABS is currently investigating options for developing linked employer-employee data, some of which involve making additional use of existing survey and/or administrative data, and others which involve data that are not currently available. The ABS expects to identify a number of potential approaches to linked employer-employee data in 2010. However, any

substantial development work on one or more of these options would likely be contingent on receiving additional funding.

For more information please contact Bjorn Jarvis on (02) 6252 6552 or email <bjorn.jarvis@abs.gov.au>.

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

REVIEW OF DATA COLLECTED IN THE JOB SEARCH EXPERIENCE SURVEY

[Contents](#) >> [Current projects](#) >> REVIEW OF DATA COLLECTED IN THE JOB SEARCH EXPERIENCE SURVEY

REVIEW OF DATA COLLECTED IN THE JOB SEARCH EXPERIENCE SURVEY

The Job Search Experience Survey is collected annually in July and information is released in [Job Search Experience](#) (cat. no. 6222.0). The survey provides information about the way people look for jobs, the methods they use and what ultimately proves to be successful when obtaining a job. Particular focus is on two key aspects: steps taken to find work, and barriers encountered in finding work. In order to provide a contrast in successful and unsuccessful job search experience, information is collected from people who started a job in the previous 12 months and from unemployed people.

The current review is focusing on evaluating the continued relevance of the data items in the survey and on assessing the extent to which the survey is continuing to capture the evolving nature of the labour market and changes in the experiences of people in seeking work. Attention will also be given to whether some populations, such as owner managers, require additional information in order to better understand their own particular experiences in starting a job.

For more information please contact Bjorn Jarvis on (02) 6252 6552 or email <bjorn.jarvis@abs.gov.au>.

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

INVESTIGATION INTO IMPROVING THE MEASURE OF JOB CHANGE

[Contents](#) >> [Current projects](#) >> INVESTIGATION INTO IMPROVING THE MEASURE OF JOB CHANGE

INVESTIGATION INTO IMPROVING THE MEASURE OF JOB CHANGE

With increasing mobility within the labour market there has been more demand for information on measuring the resulting job change. As the dynamics within the labour market have changed, so has the concept of a change in job evolved, particularly as flexibility has become an increasingly prominent element of the modern workforce. As a result, there is interest in measuring how much change is occurring, as well as the nature and the degree of job change.

This project will involve the review of job characteristics which are currently included within the measure of job change, including what a change in these characteristics means. From this review it is expected that the ABS will be able to improve its measurement of job change in its existing statistics, through development work for the Labour Force Survey, Job Search Experience Survey and Labour Mobility Survey.

It is also expected that work will be done later in 2010 to explore options for developing a redundancy and retrenchment rate from longitudinal data, which will be dependent upon the Investigations into making better use of labour survey data project.

For more information please contact Bjorn Jarvis on (02) 6252 6552 or email <bjorn.jarvis@abs.gov.au>.

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

REVIEW OF MEASUREMENT OF TEMPORARY WORK

[Contents](#) >> [Current projects](#) >> [REVIEW OF MEASUREMENT OF TEMPORARY WORK](#)

REVIEW OF MEASUREMENT OF TEMPORARY WORK

With the increase in part-time, casual and fixed-term or 'temporary' work over recent decades, there has been an increased interest in understanding the nature and extent of 'non-traditional' working arrangements, including temporary work. Currently, the ABS does not have an official measure of 'temporary employees' and is investigating options for a definition that would support the development of a robust indicator of temporary work.

The project will seek to define temporary work, relate international discussion of temporary work to the Australian context and provide recommendations for characteristics that could be used to compile a temporary work indicator.

For more information on the review of temporary work please contact Michael Gerrity on (02) 6252 5514 or email <m.gerrity@abs.gov.au>.

INVESTIGATION INTO IMPROVED GROSS FLOWS STATISTICS

Contents >> Current projects >> INVESTIGATION INTO IMPROVED GROSS FLOWS STATISTICS

INVESTIGATION INTO IMPROVED GROSS FLOWS STATISTICS

Households in the Monthly Population Survey are interviewed over eight consecutive months, and people who respond in consecutive months form a matched sample. It is from this matched sample that the ABS can produce Labour Force Survey (LFS) gross flows, which show month-to-month labour market transitions.

Gross flows data is released in Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0) including the gross flows datacube (GM1). The gross flows datacube was previously released in Labour Force, Australia, Detailed - Electronic Delivery (cat. no. 6291.0.55.001).

Gross flows data is based on a matched sample rather than the full sample, and as a consequence they do not match other published LFS estimates. The ABS is currently investigating methods of ensuring gross flows estimates are consistent with other LFS estimates. It is expected that as a result of this work the gross flows estimates will better represent the Australian population, and provide a better indication of the overall behaviour of the labour market. The ABS is planning to release improved gross flows estimates in late 2010.

For more information please contact Susan Schemen on (02) 6252 5171 or email <susan.schemen@abs.gov.au>.

Recent developments

Contents >> Recent developments



RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

Within Recent Developments are details of some of the latest analysis and new statistical products undertaken by the Labour Labour Market Statistics National Statistical Centre. These projects improve the range of labour market statistics available and assist users in the effective use of these statistics.

This section contains the following subsection :

- Re-instatement of the Labour Force Survey Sample

- Aggregate Monthly Hours Worked

- Labour Force Survey Standard Products and Data Item Guide

- Re-instatement of the Job Vacancy Survey

- FOES CURF

- Presentation at the 11TH Path to Full Employment and the 16TH National Unemployment Conference
- Survey Recent Releases

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

Re-instatement of the Labour Force Survey Sample

[Contents](#) >> [Recent developments](#) >> [Re-instatement of the Labour Force Survey Sample](#)

RE-INSTATEMENT OF THE LABOUR FORCE SURVEY SAMPLE

On 13 May 2009, following the Federal budget announcement of an additional \$15m in funding for the ABS, the Australian Statistician announced the full re-instatement of the Labour Force Survey (LFS) sample.

The LFS re-instatement occurred progressively over four reference months, from September to December 2009. The December 2009 estimates, released on 14 January 2010, were the first under the fully re-instated sample. The reversal of the 24% reduction in sample size (the reduction was in place from July 2008 to August 2009) is expected to decrease standard errors by approximately 15%.

For further information on the sample re-instatement, refer to the information paper [Labour Force Survey Sample Design, Nov 2007](#) (third edition) (cat. no. 6269.0), released on 1 October 2009. This paper discusses the expected sample size, the re-instated sampling fractions, and the impact of the sample re-instatement on labour force estimates and products and on associated surveys.

For more information please contact Susan Schemen on (02) 6252 5171 or email <susan.schemen@abs.gov.au>.

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

Aggregate Monthly Hours Worked

[Contents](#) >> [Recent developments](#) >> [Aggregate Monthly Hours Worked](#)

AGGREGATE MONTHLY HOURS WORKED

On 6 August 2009, the ABS introduced a new measure of hours worked, namely aggregate monthly hours worked, which is the total number of hours worked in Australia in a calendar month. This new measure was introduced in an article [Aggregate Monthly Hours Worked](#) in the July 2009 issue of [Labour Force, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6202.0).

The time series initially released commenced in July 1985, however the series has now been extended back to July 1978. In addition, aggregate hours worked for full-time and part-time employed people has been developed. The extended time series, and full-time/part-time data, will be released in the February 2010 issue of [Labour Force, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6202.0). From the March 2010 issue onward, data for broad industry groups will also be available. Investigations into producing data by states and territories, and by age, are continuing. Refer to the article [Expansion of aggregate monthly hours worked](#) in the January 2010 issue of [Labour Force, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6202.0).

For further information on the estimates, including the methodology used to calculate them, refer to [Information Paper: Expansion of Hours Worked Estimates from the Labour Force Survey, 2009](#) (cat. no. 6290.0.55.001), released on 8 September 2009.

For more information please contact Susan Schemen on (02) 6252 5171 or email <susan.schemen@abs.gov.au>.

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

Labour Force Survey Standard Products and Data Item Guide

[Contents](#) >> [Recent developments](#) >> [Labour Force Survey Standard Products and Data Item Guide](#)

LABOUR FORCE SURVEY STANDARD PRODUCTS AND DATA ITEM GUIDE

In December 2009, the [Labour Force Survey Standard Products and Data Item Guide](#) (cat. no. 6103.0) was released. This guide is a reference for users of Labour Force Survey standard products that are found under the following ABS catalogue entries:

- [Labour Force, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6202.0);
- [Labour Force, Australia: Labour Force Status and Other Characteristics of Families - Electronic Delivery](#) (cat. no. 6224.0.55.001);
- [Labour Force, Australia, Detailed - Electronic Delivery](#) (cat. no. 6291.0.55.001); and
- [Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Quarterly](#) (cat. no. 6291.0.55.003).

The guide includes information on concepts and data items, information on the individual products available from each catalogue number, and a reference for finding key data items, such as industry and occupation information.

For more information on the content within this guide please email <labourforce@abs.gov.au> or call (02) 6252 6525.

Re-instatement of the Job Vacancy Survey

[Contents](#) >> [Recent developments](#) >> [Re-instatement of the Job Vacancy Survey](#)

RE-INSTATEMENT OF THE JOB VACANCY SURVEY

As outlined in [Information Paper: Reinstatement of Job Vacancies Survey](#) (cat. no. 6354.0.55.001), the ABS reinstated the Job Vacancy Survey for the November 2009 period. However, due to additional work in re-establishing the survey, data for November 2009 will not be released in February, but will instead be released with data for the February 2010 reference period (on 1 April 2010).

It is expected that future issues of [Job Vacancies, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6354.0) will follow the previously established release timing, which is 6 weeks after the reference date (except for November, which is 8 weeks).

For more information please contact Zaneta Georgievski on (08) 9360 5249.

FOES CURF

[Contents](#) >> [Recent developments](#) >> [FOES CURF](#)

FOES CURF

The Forms of Employment Survey (FOES) provides data about the nature of employment arrangements in the Australian workforce. In particular, the November 2008 FOES was redeveloped to better capture information on independent contractors and other business operators. Information was also collected of people who found their current job through a labour hire firm/employment agency. The FOES provides information on a range of employment characteristics and arrangements, including fixed-term contracts, casual work, job flexibility and security, independent contracting, and the use of labour hire firms.

In January 2010, the Basic and Expanded Confidentialised Unit Record File (CURF) for FOES was released using data from the November 2008 survey. Information on the microdata within this CURF can be found in [Labour Force Survey and Forms of Employment Survey, Australia: Basic and Expanded CURF, Technical Manual](#) (cat. no. 6202.0.30.008). General information on CURFs, including how to obtain access to a CURF, can be found on

the [CURF Microdata Entry page](#).

For more information please contact Michael Gerrity on (02) 6252 5514 or email <m.gerrity@abs.gov.au>.

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

Presentation at the 11TH Path to Full Employment and the 16TH National Unemployment Conference

Contents >> Recent developments >> Presentation at the 11TH Path to Full Employment and the 16TH National Unemployment Conference

PRESENTATION AT THE 11TH PATH TO FULL EMPLOYMENT AND THE 16TH NATIONAL UNEMPLOYMENT CONFERENCE

In December 2009 a presentation was delivered at the 11th Path to Full Employment and the 16th National Unemployment Conference, hosted by the Centre of Full Employment and Equity, at the University of Newcastle.

Developments in ABS Measures of Labour Underutilisation provided a summary of the following:

- The current suite of ABS measures of labour underutilisation;
- Recent changes in these measures, with a focus on the July 2008 to October 2009 period;
- Possible future directions; and
- Recent trends observed in the measures.

For more information on the content of the presentation please contact Bjorn Jarvis on (02) 6252 6552 or email <bjorn.jarvis@abs.gov.au>.

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

Survey Recent Releases

Contents >> Recent developments >> Survey Recent Releases

SURVEY RECENT RELEASES

Australian Labour Market Statistics (cat. no. 6105.0)

Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0)

Labour Force, Australia, Detailed - Electronic Delivery (cat. no. 6291.0.55.001)

Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Quarterly (cat. no. 6291.0.55.003)

Information Paper: Labour Force Survey Sample Design (cat. no. 6269.0)

Information Paper: Expansion of Hours Worked Estimates from the Labour Force Survey
(cat. no. 6290.0.55.001)

Labour Force Survey Standard Errors, Data Cube, Oct 2009 (cat. no. 6298.0.55.001)

Labour Force Survey Standard Products and Data Item Guide, Dec 2009 (cat. no. 6103.0)

Information Paper: Reinstatement of Job Vacancies Survey, November 2009 (cat. no. 6354.0.55.001)

Education and Work, Australia, May 2009 (cat. no. 6227.0)

Microdata: Survey of Education and Work, Basic CURE, Australia, May 2009 (cat. no. 6227.0.30.001)

Technical Manual: Survey of Education and Work, Basic CURE, Australia, May 2009 (cat. no. 6227.0.30.002)

Average Weekly Earnings, Australia (cat. no. 6302.0)

Information Paper: Changes to Average Weekly Earnings, Australia (cat. no. 6302.0.55.002)

Microdata: Labour Force Survey and Forms of Employment Survey, Basic and Expanded CURE, Australia, Nov 2008 (cat. no. 6202.0.30.007)

Labour Force Survey and Forms of Employment Survey, Australia: Basic and Expanded CURE, Technical Manual, Nov 2008 (cat. no. 6202.0.30.008)

Employment and Earnings, Public Sector, Australia 2008-09 (cat. no. 6248.0.55.002)

Industrial Disputes, Australia (cat. no. 6321.0.55.001)

Labour Force Experience, Australia, Feb 2009 (cat. no. 6206.0)

Job Search Experience, Australia, July 2009 (cat. no. 6222.0)

Barriers and Incentives to Labour Force Participation, Australia, Jul 2008 to Jun 2009 (cat. no. 6239.0)

Underemployed Workers, Australia, Sep 2009 (cat. no. 6265.0)

Household Income and Income Distribution, Australia, 2007-08 (cat. no. 6523.0)

Australian Social Trends (cat. no. 4102.0)

Articles and analysis

[Contents >> Articles and analysis](#)



ARTICLES AND ANALYSIS

This section provides a summary of the latest articles and analysis by the Labour Market Statistics National Statistical Centre within various publications, promoting the effective use of labour market statistics. Articles and Analysis also includes references to labour articles in key ABS publications, such as Australian Social Trends.

Labour Hire Workers

There is ongoing interest in people who obtain work through labour hire firms and employment agencies. People who engage with labour hire firms are a diverse group and work in a range of jobs across various industries and occupations for a variety of reasons. This article provides an overview of the characteristics of people who found their job through a labour hire firm, using data from the November 2008 Forms of Employment Survey.

This article was first published in the January 2010 issue of [Australian Labour Market Statistics](#) (cat. no. 6105.0).

Methods of setting pay.

Over the past few years there have been a number of changes to the Australian workplace relations environment. This article uses data from the August 2008 Survey of Employee Earnings and Hours (EEH) to highlight the latest data on methods of setting pay and how this has changed over time. This article also looks at a range of other characteristics, including industry, occupation, sector and employment status, as well as the average earnings of employees for each of the methods of setting pay.

This article was first published in the October 2009 issue of [Australian Labour Market Statistics](#) (cat. no. 6105.0).

Volume measures of labour underutilisation

The article highlights the changes the ABS has recently made to the reference period for volume measures and the method used to produce them. It also provides a data comparison between the old and new series.

This article was first published in the October 2009 issue of [Australian Labour Market Statistics](#) (cat. no. 6105.0).

Australian Social Trends goes quarterly

2009 was the first year that Australian Social Trends (cat. no. 4102.0) was released on a quarterly basis. The publication draws together a wide range of statistics from the ABS and other official sources to provide a picture of Australian society and how it is changing over time.

There were numerous articles released in 2009 fitting under the 'Work' banner and the next release (16 March, 2010) will see three more interesting articles; 'The Labour Market During Recent Economic Downturns', 'Are Young People Earning Or Learning' and 'Income Support Among People Of Working Age'.

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

AST Articles

[Contents >> AST Articles](#)

This document was added or updated on 03/03/2010.

Australian Social Trends Articles

Trends in Household Work

'In 2006, women spent almost twice as much time on household work as men did. The opposite was true of paid work.'

Read more to know whether people are doing more or less housework than in the past, the division of housework between men and women and how this has changed over time.

This article was first published in the March 2009 issue of Australian Social Trends (cat. no. 4102.0).

Retirement and Retirement Intentions

'Over one million people plan to retire in the next ten years.'

This article looks at why people have retired (or intend to retire), sources of income after retirement, retirement intentions by industry of employment and whether people plan to wind down to retirement (e.g. whether they plan to move from full-time work to part-time work prior to retirement).

This article was first published in the March 2009 issue of Australian Social Trends (cat. no. 4102.0).

Casual Employees

'In 2007, there was 2.1 million casuals and they were less likely to have flexible working arrangements than employees with paid leave entitlements.'

This article focuses on the flexibility of working arrangements of casual employees (using the ABS proxy of employees without leave entitlements), and also briefly examines job stability for casuals.

This article was first published in the June 2009 issue of Australian Social Trends (cat. no. 4102.0).

Carers and Employment

'In 2007, around two-thirds of female carers who were working full-time always or often felt rushed or pressed for time.'

This article covers the labour force status of carers, why carers were outside the labour force, the proportions of carers who always or often feel pressed for time and retirement intentions and superannuation for carers.

This article was first published in the September 2009 issue of Australian Social Trends (cat. no. 4102.0).

People With More Than One Job

'Multiple job holders are much more likely to work at night and on weekends than single job holders.'

Read more to know how many people work more than one job, their characteristics, what sort of work they're doing (employment type, occupation, industry), how much they earn, weekly hours worked, travel time, how many days a week they usually work, whether they feel pressed for time, how long they've had their second job and whether they're happy with their working pattern.

This article was first published in the September 2009 issue of Australian Social Trends (cat. no. 4102.0).

Work, Life and Family Balance

'There are over one and a half million two-parent families with children in Australia, with most of these families having both parents working. In the majority (80%) of these working families, at least one of the parents said they were often or always pressed for time.'

This article covers parents' working arrangements (e.g. do they work from home, do they work at night), whether they have access to paid leave and flexible working conditions and use of child care. It also covers how parents spend their time and why parents feel pressured for time.

This article was first published in the September 2009 issue of Australian Social Trends (cat. no. 4102.0).

Jobless Families

'There are over half a million children who lived in a family where no-one has a job. However, there are fewer jobless families now than there were ten years ago.'

Discusses jobless families (with children under 15 years of age), looking at the circumstances and socioeconomic characteristics of these families.

This article was first published in the December 2009 issue of [Australian Social Trends](#) (cat. no. 4102.0).

Patterns in Work

'In 2007, 41% of Australia's workers preferred to work some or all of their hours at night or on the weekend. An even larger proportion (51%) usually worked some or all of their hours at these 'non-traditional' times.'

Looks at the working patterns of Australians, particularly those people who may be working outside of the traditional business hours or working on a weekend.

This article was first published in the December 2009 issue of [Australian Social Trends](#) (cat. no. 4102.0).

[Previous Page](#)

[Next Page](#)

Find out more

[Contents >> Find out more](#)



FIND OUT MORE

[About the Labour Market National Statistical Centre](#)

[Introduction to Labour Statistics training course](#)

About the Labour Market National Statistical Centre

The Labour Market National Statistical Centre is responsible for:

- promoting the effective use of labour market statistics;
- influencing the development of national and international frameworks; and
- improving the relevance and reliability of labour market statistics.

We have three teams who specialise in various aspects of the labour market:

Labour Market Dynamics

The Labour Market Dynamics team specialises in statistics that inform on transitions within the labour market, particularly into and out of employment. The team has a focus on understanding the nature of these transitions and the people who are affected. If you have any questions relating to transitions, unemployment and underemployment, underutilisation, job search experience and job vacancies, retirement, labour force participation or persons not in the labour force, please contact Bjorn Jarvis (team leader) on (02) 6252 6552 or email <bjorn.jarvis@abs.gov.au> .

Wages and Workplace Relations

The Wages and Workplace Relations team specialises in statistics and statistical measures relating to the nature of employment, such as wages and conditions of employment, employment arrangements, working time arrangements, leave entitlements, and workplace relations (bargaining, trade union membership). If you have any questions in regards to earnings measures and sources (including gender wage issues), independent contracting and other forms of employment, casual employment or methods of setting pay, please contact Michael Gerrity (team leader) on (02) 6252 5514 or email <m.gerrity@abs.gov.au>.

Labour Force Survey Projects

The Labour Force Survey Projects team undertakes research, development and analytical work relating to the design and operation of the monthly Labour Force Survey. Their work is aimed at maintaining the efficiency and relevance of the survey, and at improving the quality and range of data disseminated. Please contact Susan Schemen (team leader) on (02) 6252 5171 or email <susan.schemen@abs.gov.au> if you have any questions about developments relating to the Labour Force Survey.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Published information is available free of charge on our website. Where data is not available on our website at the level of detail you require, our team can provide you with customised data to meet your specific requirements. Contact us on (02) 6252 7206 or email <labour.statistics@abs.gov.au> to discuss your data requirements.

All key labour statistical releases and publications can be found at the Labour Releases section of the [Labour Theme Page](#). For help finding and accessing ABS products and services contact the National Information Referral Service on 1300 135 070.

Introduction to Labour Statistics training course



Introduction to Labour Statistics is a one-day training course run in partnership between the National Statistical Training Institute and the Labour Market National Statistical Centre.

The training course suits people with or without a related academic background, providing an overview of the range of concepts and issues associated with ABS labour statistics. It also explores the data produced by both household and employer based collections, and highlights the range of data available.

Introduction to Labour Statistics training courses are generally held in each state capital

during 2010.

For more details about this and other statistical training, or to register interest in a course, please refer to the [ABS Training page](#), or contact Bjorn Jarvis on (02) 6252 6552 or email <bjorn.jarvis@abs.gov.au>.

[Previous Page](#)

© Commonwealth of Australia

All data and other material produced by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) constitutes Commonwealth copyright administered by the ABS. The ABS reserves the right to set out the terms and conditions for the use of such material. Unless otherwise noted, all material on this website – except the ABS logo, the Commonwealth Coat of Arms, and any material protected by a trade mark – is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 2.5 Australia licence